

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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S E C R E T MOSCOW 10186

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, US, UR, OEXD

SUBJ: NUCLEAR TEST BAN

REF: STATE 134781

1. ROMNEY AND HERRIN HAVE REVIEWED THE IDEA OF INVERSE CALIBRATION OF TEST SITES USING EARTHQUAKE SOURCES (REFTEL STATE 134781). COMMENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. THIS METHOD WOULD NOT CALIBRATE ANY PARTICULAR NETWORK SINCE THE EARTHQUAKES WOULD NOT OCCUR AT THE SEISMIC STATIONS OF THE VERIFICATION NETWORK. THERE WOULD BE NO TRUE INVERSE PATH CALIBRATION.

B. THIS METHOD DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION ON THE COUPLING FACTOR FOR UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS AT THE TEST SITE.

C. EARTHQUAKES ARE SOURCES WHICH GIVE RISE TO LARGE AZIMUTHAL VARIATIONS IN THE AMPLITUDE OF RADIATED SEISMIC WAVES. IT IS NOT CLEAR IT IS POSSIBLE TO REMOVE THESE EFFECTS FROM THE CALIBRATION PROCESS.

D. WE ANTICIPATE MANY SERIOUS POLITICAL AND PRACTICAL PROBLEMS RELATED TO INSTALLATION OF A TAMPER-PROOF SEISMIC STATION ON THE SOVIET TEST SITE.

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2. ROMNEY AND HERRIN DO NOT BELIEVE THE CALIBRATION METHOD

DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL, PARA 15, WOULD BE OF ANY SIGNIFICANT
VALUE IN IMPROVING ESTIMATES OF YIELDS BY SEISMIC MEANS.

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Message Attributes

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